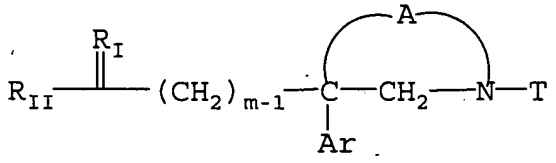
Amendments to the Specification:

Page 1, below the title and above "TECHNICAL FIELD", please insert the following new paragraph:

This application is a United States national phase application of International Application PCT/JP2005/002886 filed February 23, 2005.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 5 on page 2 with the following amended paragraph:



[m: 2 or 3, [[Ar_1]] Ar: a phenyl group, and the like, A: -Ol-CH_2-CH_2-, and the like, R_I: 2 hydrogen atoms, R_{II}: O-SO_2-Y, Y: a methyl, phenyl tolyl, or CF_3 group, or R_I: an oxygen atom, R_{II}: a hydrogen atom, and [[T^1]] T: benzoyl group, and the like]

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 11 of page 21 with the following amended paragraph:

The base to be employed is not particularly restricted provided that it can be used in general reactions as a base, and can be, for example, an alkali metal carbonate such as sodium carbonate, potassium carbonate or lithium carbonate; an alkaline earth metal carbonate such as calcium carbonate or barium carbonate; an alkali metal hydrogencarbonate such as sodium hydrogencarbonate, potassium hydrogencarbonate or lithium hydrogencarbonate; an alkali metal hydride such as lithium hydride, sodium hydride or potassium hydride; an alkali metal hydroxide such as sodium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide or lithium hydroxide; or an alkaline earth metal hydroxide such as calcium hydroxide or barium hydroxide; [[:]] or an organic base such as N-methylmorpholine, triethylamine, tripropylamine, tributylamine, diisopropylethylamine, dicyclohexylamine, N-methylpiperidine, pyridine, 4-pyrrolidinopyridine, picoline, 4-dimethylaminopyridine, 2,6-di(tert-butyl)-4-methylpyridine, quinoline, N,N-dimethylaniline, N,N-diethylaniline, 1,5-diazabicyclo[4.3.0]non-5-ene (DBN), 1,4-diazabicyclo[2.2.2]octane (DABCO) or 1,8-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-ene (DBU). The base is preferably an inorganic [[amine]] base, and most preferably an alkali metal hydrogencarbonate. Furthermore, addition of a catalytic amount of an alkaline metal iodide such as potassium iodide or sodium iodide to the reaction mixture is useful for enhancing the rate of the reaction.
The reaction temperature employed in the above reaction can be, for example, between 0°C and 150°C, and preferably between 20°C and 120°C.
The reaction time varies depending mainly on the reaction temperature, the starting materials, the reaction reagent or the inert solvent to be employed. However, it is usually from 30 minutes to 48 hours, and preferably from 1 to 12 hours.

Please replace the second paragraph on page 23 with the following amended paragraph:

<HPLC condition (1)>

Column:	~~CHALCEL~~ CHIRALCEL OD (commercial name, manufactured by Daicel Chemical Industries, Ltd.), 4.6 ϕ × 250 mm
Mobile phase	Hexane : iPrOH = 50 : 50
Column temperature:	40°C
Detection	UV (220 nm)
Flow rate:	1 ml/min